



## 2003 NATIONAL DISTILLERS GRAINS SUMMARY SURVEY OF ETHANOL PRODUCERS

Released by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), Iowa State Statistical Office, U.S. Department of Agriculture. For more information call (515) 284-4340, office hours 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. CT.

Of the ethanol-producing plants that responded:

- The average ethanol production capacity was more than 27 million gallons per year.
- The average year ethanol production began was 1997.
- Nearly 68% of the plants were farmer owned, with an average of 494 farmers involved in the ownership.
- More than 96% of the ethanol was produced from corn, with an average usage of \*11.9 million bushels per year. (\*Revised.)
- More than 3% of the ethanol was produced from something other than corn; including milo and whey.
- Virtually none of the plants de-germ the corn as a part of their processing.
- Slightly more than 43% of the plants had a minimum order requirement for their distillers grains. The average minimum order requirement was 9.2 tons.
- All plants had distillers grains standards for their products.

Distillers Grains Produced, 2002					
	Number of Plants Reporting	Percent Moisture	Average Tons Produced Per Year Per Plant	Total Tons Produced by Those Reporting	Average Price Charged Per Ton
	(Number)	(Percent)	(Tons)	(Tons)	(Dollars)
Condensed Distillers Solubles	7	58	*28,115	196,804	19
Distillers Dried Grains	1	16	1	1	1
Distillers Dried Grains with Solubles	22	*11	*73,854	1,624,809	85
Distillers Wet Grains	13	66	*86,928	1,130,066	27
Distillers Dried Solubles	0	--	--	--	--
Wet Distillers Grains with Solubles	4	50	126,159	504,635	38

<sup>1</sup> Insufficient data.

\*Revised.

Percent of Distillers Grains Distributed By Marketing Channels (Initial Point of Sale), 2002					
Livestock Feeders	Feed Companies	Local Elevators	Broker	Exported	Other
(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
44	19	8	29	0	0

Percent of Distillers Grains Sold, By Contract Type, 2002						
Spot	Monthly	Quarterly	6-Month	Clock	Other	No Contract
(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
38	10	10	9	11	3	19

Relative Importance of Distillers Grains Product Qualities to Their Customers <sup>1</sup> , 2002							
Consistent Product	Quality Product	Protein Content	Shelf Life	Freshness	Color	Moisture	Handling Ease
4.7	4.7	4.0	3.0	3.4	3.6	3.7	3.7

<sup>1</sup> Operators were asked to rate the relative importance of each product quality to their customers from 1 (Least Important) to 5 (Most Important).

Relative Importance of Plant Services to Their Customers <sup>1</sup> , 2002				
Reliability of Deliveries	Availability of Supply	Contracting	Comparative Value	Inventory Control
4.3	4.5	3.0	3.9	3.4

<sup>1</sup> Operators were asked to rate the relative importance of each plant service to their customers from 1 (Least Important) to 5 (Most Important).

## 2003 NATIONAL DISTILLERS GRAINS SUMMARY

### SURVEY OF ETHANOL PRODUCERS

Transportation Profile for Plants Producing DRY Distillers Grains, 2002			
	Percent of Plants Using Transportation Mode	Percent of Product Hauled By This Mode	Average Transportation Costs Per Ton Per Mile
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Dollars)
Rail	79	25	<sup>1</sup>
Truck	100	75	0.118
Barge	11	<1	<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Insufficient data.

Transportation Profile for Plants Producing WET Distillers Grains, 2002			
	Percent of Plants Using Transportation Mode	Percent of Product Hauled By This Mode	Average Transportation Costs Per Ton Per Mile
	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Dollars)
Truck	100	100	0.130

Marketing of Distillers Grains, 2002		
Company (In-House)	Marketing Company	Feed Mill
(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
31	76	7

Percent With Consumer Services Offered To Distillers Grains Customers, 2002					
Nutritionist Service	Delivery Services	Variety of Products	Consumer Education	On-Site Consultation	None
(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)	(Percent)
31	48	14	38	31	17

#### Feed Ingredient Definitions – Source: Association of American Feed Control Officials

- ♦ **CDS – Condensed Distillers Solubles** is obtained after the removal of ethyl alcohol by distillation from the yeast fermentation of corn by condensing the thin stillage fraction to a semi-solid.
- ♦ **DDG – Distillers Dried Grains** is obtained after the removal of ethyl alcohol by distillation from the yeast fermentation of corn by separating the resultant coarse grain fraction of the whole stillage and drying it.
- ♦ **DDGS – Distillers Dried Grains with Solubles** is the product obtained after removal of ethyl alcohol by distillation from the yeast fermentation of corn by condensing and drying at least ¾ of the solids of the resultant whole stillage.
- ♦ **DDS – Distillers Dried Solubles** is obtained after the removal of ethyl alcohol by distillation from the yeast fermentation of corn by condensing the thin stillage fraction and drying it.
- ♦ **DWG – Distillers Wet Grains** is the product obtained after the removal of ethyl alcohol by distillation from the yeast fermentation of corn.
- ♦ **WDGS** – *At the time of publication, a definition for this feed ingredient was not available.*

**Survey Methodology:** The office of Renewable Fuels and Co-Products, IDALS provided the Iowa Agricultural Statistics Service a list of ethanol producers. The list of 78 businesses were each mailed a questionnaire followed by a second request two weeks later. A telephone follow-up of non-respondents was then conducted. Some companies that were ethanol producers were contacted, but did not feel their co-products fit the survey definition. There were 29 completed reports. Each returned questionnaire was hand edited for reasonableness, in addition to a computer edit. Data inconsistencies were clarified by re-contacting the firm by telephone. The data was then summarized using a PC statistical analysis software program.